Missing of Art objects/Sculptures during Festival of India in USSR

29. KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Museum had hired some sculptures from the Konark and Ratnagiri museums of Orissa for the Festival of India organised in the Soviet Union;

(b) whether some sculptures have not returned so far;

(c) whether those sculptures were missing or damaged; and

(d) if not, what steps have been taken to return those sculptures?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L. P. SHAHI): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. The National Museum had taken on loan, one sculpture from the Konark site museum and one from the Ratnagiri site museum for the Festival of India in USSR. None of these is missing. Both the art objects have been returned to the respective museums of Orissa. The sculpture belonging to Konark suffered minor damage.

Tapping the tourist potential in Tamil Nadu

30. SHRI K. V. THANGKABALU: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether any specific proposal has been submitted by Tamil Nadu Government for tapping the tourist potential in the State;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what decision has been taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Development of tourist spots in Tamil Nadu

31. SHRI K. V. THANGKABALU: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) what proposals have been included in Seventh Five Year Plan for development of tourist spots in Tamil Nadu which are yet to be completed or implemented;

(b) what are the other proposals, if any under consideration of Government for promotion of tourism in that State; and

(c) what is the time stipulated for completion of each of these projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) to (c) The Central Ministry of Civil Aviation and Tourism provides financial assistance on the basis of specific proposals received from State Government. These proposals are taken up for financial assistance subject to the potential of the place, existing and projected tourist traffic, viability of the project, overall merits of the proposal, availability of funds and *inter-se* priorities. The statement about the details of the proposals during the Seventh Plan so far is enclosed (*See* below). The stipulated period for completion of each of the projects varies from two to three years.